Message Text

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ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-20 VO-03 SCA-01

INSE-00 INR-07 CIAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 SS-15 NSC-05

NSCE-00 IO-10 /076 W

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5029

INFO CINCPACREP GUAM IMMEDIATE

INS GUAM IMMEDIATE

VIETNAM TASK FORCE GUAM IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL HONG KONG 5470

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF VN HK

SUBJ: SITREP - VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN HONG KONG

- 1. NO SITREP WAS PREPARED ON MAY 16. NUMBER OF REFUGEES IN HONG KONG IMMIGRATION DETENTION REMAINS AT 3,793.
- 2. THE 103 REFUGEES ON BOARD THE AMERICAN MERCHANT SHIP, M.V. OREGON (NOT INCLUDED IN THOSE IN DETENTION), WILL BE SENT TO GUAM ACCORDING TO OUR INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT ON SUNDAY, MAY 18 ON PAN AM 848. THEY WILL BE DOCUMENTED AS INDICATED IN HONG KONG 5426. ALSO ON THE SAME FLIGHT WILL BE FIVE FORMER AIR AMERICA EMPLOYEES WITH DOCUMENTATION AS INDICATED IN STATE 113647.
- 3. WE HAVE INFORMATION ON THREE ADDITIONAL SHIPS ENTERING HONG KONG WITH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES. WE WILL ARRANGE THROUGH ICEM IMMEDIATE ONWARD TRANSPORTATION TO GUAM FOR THE 35 ON BOARD THE S.S. EURYBATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN STATE 115809. UNFORTUNATELY, THIS INSTRUCTION WAS NOT SENT TO GUAM AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S NOTIFICATION TO GUAM OF THIS DECISION. A PANAMANIAN SHIP, THE CONFIDENTIAL

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GLORIOUS COUNTRY, IS ANTICIPATED TO ARRIVE IN HONG

KONG MAY 19 WITH 35 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES. A ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINES SHIP IS EXPECTED IN HONG KONG ON MAY 22 OR 23 WITH 27 REFUGEES. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE ON WHETHER WE SHOULD BECOME INVOLVED WITH THESE REFUGEES.

- 4. THE SWEDISH ACTING CONSUL GENERAL APPROACHED US WITH A REQUEST FROM HIS GOVERNMENT TO INCLUDE THE 22 REFUGEES ON BOARD THE M.V. JAPAN, CURRENTLY IN HONG KONG, WITH THE 103 FROM THE OREGON. WE REPORTED THIS BY TELEPHONE TO THE VIETNAM TASK FORCE IN WASHINGTON IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF MAY 16 WASHINGTON TIME, BUT HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY INSTRUCTIONS. ACCORDINGLY, WE HAVE INFORMED THE SWEDISH CONGEN THAT WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEDE TO HIS REQUEST.
- 5. INS HONG KONG, AUGMENTED BY TWO INS OFFICERS AND ONE SECRETARY FROM GUAM, ARE PREPARED TO BEGIN SCREENING OF THE REFUGEES HELD BY HONG KONG IMMIGRATION ON MAY 19.
- 6. THE CONGEN HAS BEEN SENDING REFUGEES TO GUAM ON THE BASIS OF INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED BY CABLE OR BY TELEPHONE FROM THE DEPARTMENT. AT THE SAME TIME, THE INS OFFICE HERE HAS BEEN RECEIVING COMMUNICATION FROM THE INS OFFICE IN GUAM TO THE EFFECT THAT NO MORE REFUGEES ARE TO BE SENT TO GUAM AND THAT INS ALONE HAS THE AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT OR DENY FURTHER ENTRY OF REFUGEES. THIS IS A MATTER WHICH THE DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE TO SETTLE URGENTLY WITH INS IN WASHINGTON. GETSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, SHIP DETENTION

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 17 MAY 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975HONGK05470

Document Number: 1975HONGK05470 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A Film Number: D750173-0860 From: HONG KONG Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750541/aaaabkuy.tel Line Count: 93

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION ITF Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: greeneet

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 15 JUL 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <14 NOV 2003 by greeneet>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SITREP - VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN HONG KONG TAGS: SREF, VN, HK
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006